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FORCE WORKS
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HANDS OF THE MANDARIN
REY GARCIA '94

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS

RICHARD ASHFORD EDITOR
MICHAEL KRAIGER ASSISTANT EDITOR
RALPH MACCHIO GROUP EDITOR
TOM DEFALCO EDITOR IN CHIEF

COVER BY REY GARCIA

FORCEWORKS

"IN THE HANDS OF THE MANDARIN"
PART 1 OF 2

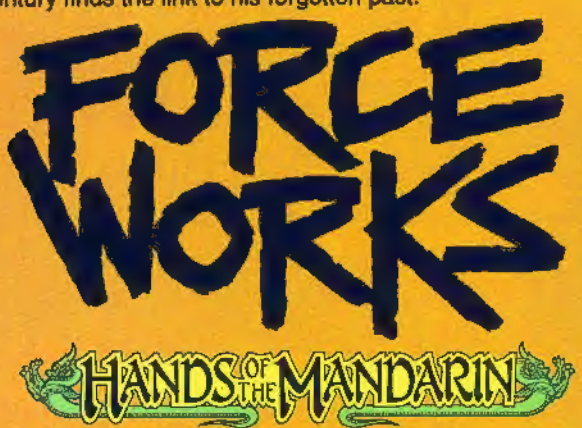
WRITERS .....LEN KAMINISKI
SCOTT BENSON
PENCILS .....PATRICK ROLO
INKS .....REGGIE JONES
LETTERS.....MADONNA
COLORS.....FRANK LOPEZ

To get on with his life and the future, the Mandarin must confront demons from his past.

CENTURY

WRITER .....DAN ABNETT
ARTIST .....LAWRENCE BROWN
LETTERS .....MADONNA
COLORS .....FRANK LOPEZ

During a battle with super-powered beings in Hong Kong, Century finds the link to his forgotten past.



CROSSOVER INFO

To keep tabs on the entire **HANDS OF THE MANDRIN** crossover, for which we have been presenting parallel stories here in **MCP**, check out...

FORCE WORKS #6	**PART 1**
WAR MACHINE #9	**PART 2**
IRON MAN #311	**PART 3**
FORCE WORKS #7	**PART 4**
WAR MACHINE #10	**PART 5**
IRON MAN #312	**PART 6**

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MARVEL READERS PRESENT

c/o 387 Park Avenue South, New York, NY, 10016

Dear Richard and Michael,

I just finished reading Marvel Comics Presents #164. The Fantastic Four story really bothered me. The bunny rabbit story was very heartfelt. It was so innocent. It's the kind of story I wish would appear more often. It bothers me that it rarely does.

I shivered when Rabbit Stu crossed the busy highway. And I was happy to see Ben rescue Rabbit Stu from rats. Mariano Nicieza's story was truly wonderful. It brightened up a cool autumn day. Although it was cloudy and rainy in Barron, I felt warm inside.

Thank you for Rabbit Stu.

Allen Klingelhoets
9 South 9th Street
Barron, WI 54812

Thank you, Allen, for your wonderful words of praise. We like Mariano's work too. We just wanted our readers to know that there's more to a super hero's life than just bashing bad guys.

Dear Richard and Michael,

For once, I'd be in total agreement that THE MANTHING deserves his own mini-series. Appearing scant months before DC's Swamp Thing, the muck-covered monster seems to be a little maligned at Mighty Marvel, the result of bad storytelling and being just a little in the shadow of that other famed swamp creation by Len Wein and Berni Wrightson. Yet, Simon Jowett and Paul Johnson created magic with "Behold the Man-Thing."

It seems as if Simon has taken the same more adult approach with Ted Sallis and his murky swamp creation that the competition has succeeded with, and made the Man-Thing new and interesting again. Taking the ball from DC and running with it, the story is filled with great, intense narrative and loads of betrayal, action and suspense. With any luck, this series will test the waters for an upcoming mini-series by this team. They've rejuvenated the character in my mind, in what could become one of the best serials MCP has produced. And I haven't even mentioned Paul Johnson's stark artwork or Ellie DeVille's "quiet" lettering. In five simple words: I want my Man-Thing!

Nel Yomtov's "Great American Mall Shootout" featuring Spider-Woman also looks very promising. Julia Carpenter is not only a positive female hero, but she's a single mom who faces as many real problems as she does fantastic ones. Supported by some great art by Czop and Dzon, Nel will also tackle some heavy ground with Spider-Woman's stalker, as we saw on the last page. This story is not only relevant, but could prove to be very exciting. I'll keep posted.

"Tempered Steel" on the other hand, wasn't Chris Cooper's best Vengeance story. Sometimes I think the creative team is hindered by the 8 pages. MCP could also benefit from having no recurring characters, allowing for more variety. If a series for Vengeance isn't viable though, let's see some promotion from the other Midnight Sons books!

Despite nice art by Guy Dorian and John Stokes, the Turbo story by Evan Skolnick is lacking, and I'm confused about the rather hostile portrayal of the Pantheon. Where's Peter David when you need him? Going back a couple of issues, the Mr. Fantastic story was good but the art, with inks by the renowned Klaus Janson, was out-

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VENGEANCE

"FALLEN IDOLS"
PART 3 OF 3

WRITER .....CHRIS COOPER
BREAKDOWNS .....REGGIE JONES
FINISHES .....FRED HARPER
LETTERS .....UL HIGGINS
COLORS .....ASHLEY POSELLA

The Vengeance/War Machine showdown has come to an end. Has Vengeance turned over a new leaf?

IT, THE LIVING COLOSSUS

"ROCK'EM SOCK'EM ROBOTS"

WRITER .....BARRY DUTTER
ARTIST .....JOSE FONTERIZ
LETTERS .....DIANA ALBERS
COLORS .....STEVE WHITAKER

It's a real "clash of the titans" as giant robots, It and Karrg, duke it out to be king of the FX ring.

FROM RICHARD AND MICHAEL (AND SUE)

Hi, how's everyone been? We've been pretty ragged on this end trying to get books out and doing stuff. You know, office stuff. Stuff like answering phones, sending work out to artists and letterers and colorists, playing with the computer, and scrubbing coffee rings off our immaculate (ha, ha) desks. Which brings me to my next point.

The office goes through these spells of neatness and messiness. Guess which phase we're in right now. Here's a hint: I spent 20 minutes this morning sifting through a stack of papers for this very computer disk that I'm typing this editorial on. Hey as long as things can be found it doesn't matter, right? Exactly. That's what I used to tell my mom when she'd yell at me to go clean my room. Unfortunately, it never worked. However, I do find the "it's-my-life-I-can-do-whatever-I-want-with-it" argument to be very effective.

Head of the Household,
Richard and Sue

MARVEL READERS PRESENT

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standing. There's one talent that MCP should utilize more often. And finally, the conclusion to the Tigra story was a little disappointing, but it had fine artwork.

Well, thanks for your time and keep up the good work while improving on the not-so-good. And one of these days, I'll count my letters published here! See you in two weeks.

Joey Marchese
P.O. Box 802
Clark, NJ 07066

Thanks, Joey. We're glad you enjoyed the Man-Thing story so much. After all, here at Marvel Comics Presents, we aim to please. Marvel Comics Presents does feature many talented artists, doesn't it? Well, we're just glad you appreciate them so much. Enjoy! Oh and by the way, Joey, we've printed your letters back to back; the last issue and this issue of Marvel Comics Presents. Well, what can we say, we're just suckers for loyal fans.

Dear Richard and Michael,

I've decided to focus on the current Vengeance feature this time. David Phelps' letter in MCP#163 got me thinking because it raised several insightful points and questions, including a couple related to the Vengeance part of the book. They also concern Ghost Rider stories that used to be in MCP, since they can be seen as the predecessor to the regular Vengeance stories.

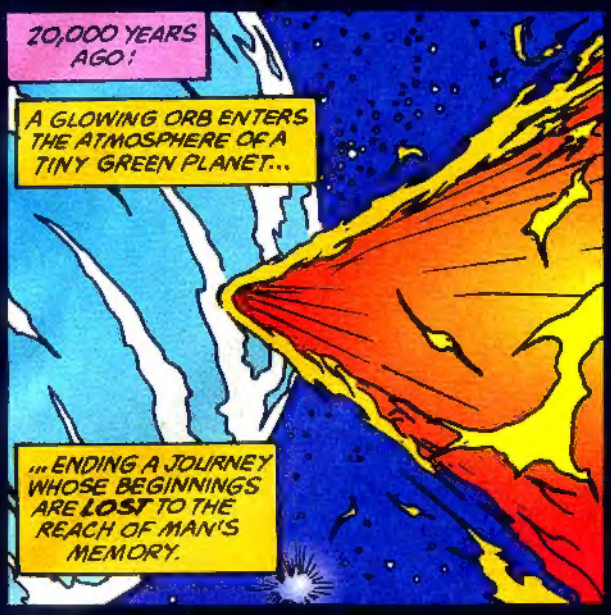
The first point that relates to Vengeance was David's criticism that he has seen too many "lame-o one-shot throwaway villains" in this book, and wanted some established villains. If you're going to create new villains for Vengeance, please try to avoid having them either fade into obscurity or start out as silly from square one. Have established villains like Cyber, Sabretooth, Baron Strucker, Dr. Octopus, or best of all, Vengeance's arch-foe Hellgate.

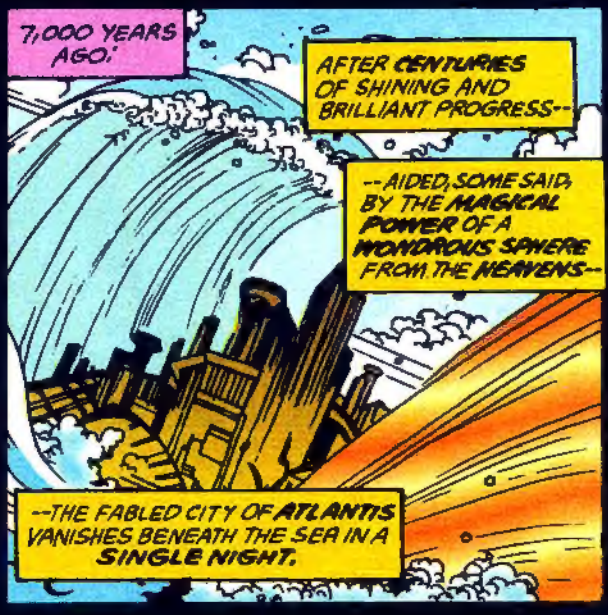
David's questions also led me seriously to wonder when these Vengeance stories are taking place. MCP #147-149 seem to take place some time between Ghost Rider #46-50, since Vengeance is referred to as the new Ghost Rider in those three issues. However, the placing of the subsequent stories is hazy. This may seem like a minor complaint, but I think you should try to maintain slightly better ties between the Vengeance featured in MCP and its "father" title. Unlike the Wolverine stories, which often tied into the X-Men continuity, the reader would only get a vague feeling of when events were happening in the Ghost Rider tales and how they tied into the character's monthly books.

I hope that the points I raised do not seem like unreasonable complaints. I am only making them because I hope they will be taken into consideration. Anyways, I hope you will keep up the exemplary work, so that I will have a superb title to look forward to every fortnight.

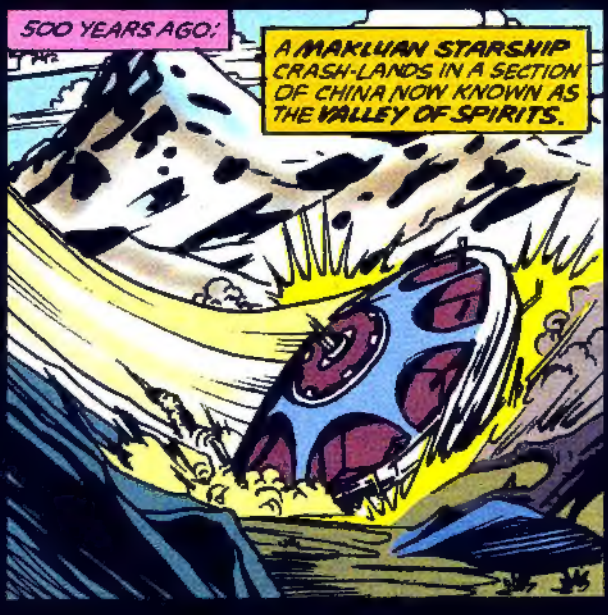
Ben "Continuity Cop" Herman
45 Runyon Place
Scarsdale, NY 10583

So, what exactly are you saying? Just kidding. Sorry about the continuity thing, but we're doing our best. And we take all of our readers' comments seriously. Oh and Ben, for the record, you've also appeared back to back in this issue and the last.

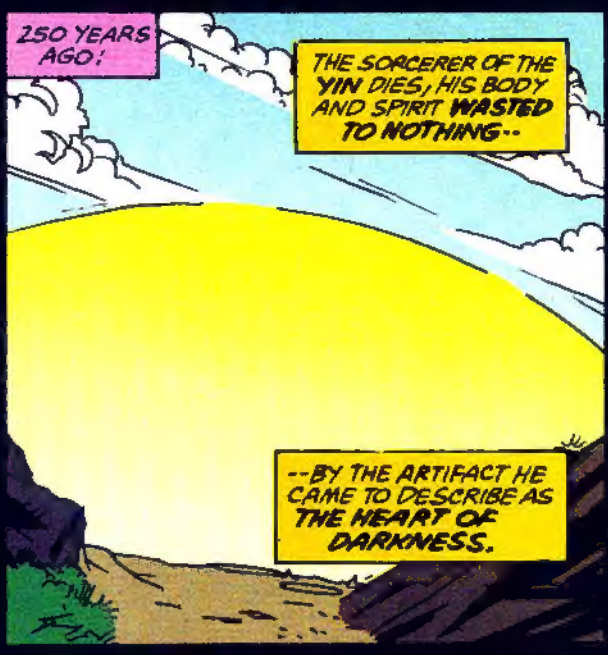

20,000 YEARS AGO!
A GLOWING ORB ENTERS THE ATMOSPHERE OF A TINY GREEN PLANET...
...ENDING A JOURNEY WHOSE BEGINNINGS ARE LOST TO THE REACH OF MAN'S MEMORY.


7,000 YEARS AGO:
AFTER CENTURIES OF SHINING AND BRILLIANT PROGRESS--
--AIDED, SOME SAID, BY THE MAGICAL POWER OF A MONOROUS SPHERE FROM THE HEAVENS--
--THE FABLED CITY OF ATLANTIS VANISHES BENEATH THE SEA IN A SINGLE NIGHT.

700 YEARS AGO:
THE EMPEROR TEMUJIN--THE MIGHTY GENGHIS KHAN--UNIFIES HALF THE WORLD UNDER HIS BARBARIAN RULE.


500 YEARS AGO:
A MAKLUAN STARSHIP CRASH-LANDS IN A SECTION OF CHINA NOW KNOWN AS THE VALLEY OF SPIRITS.

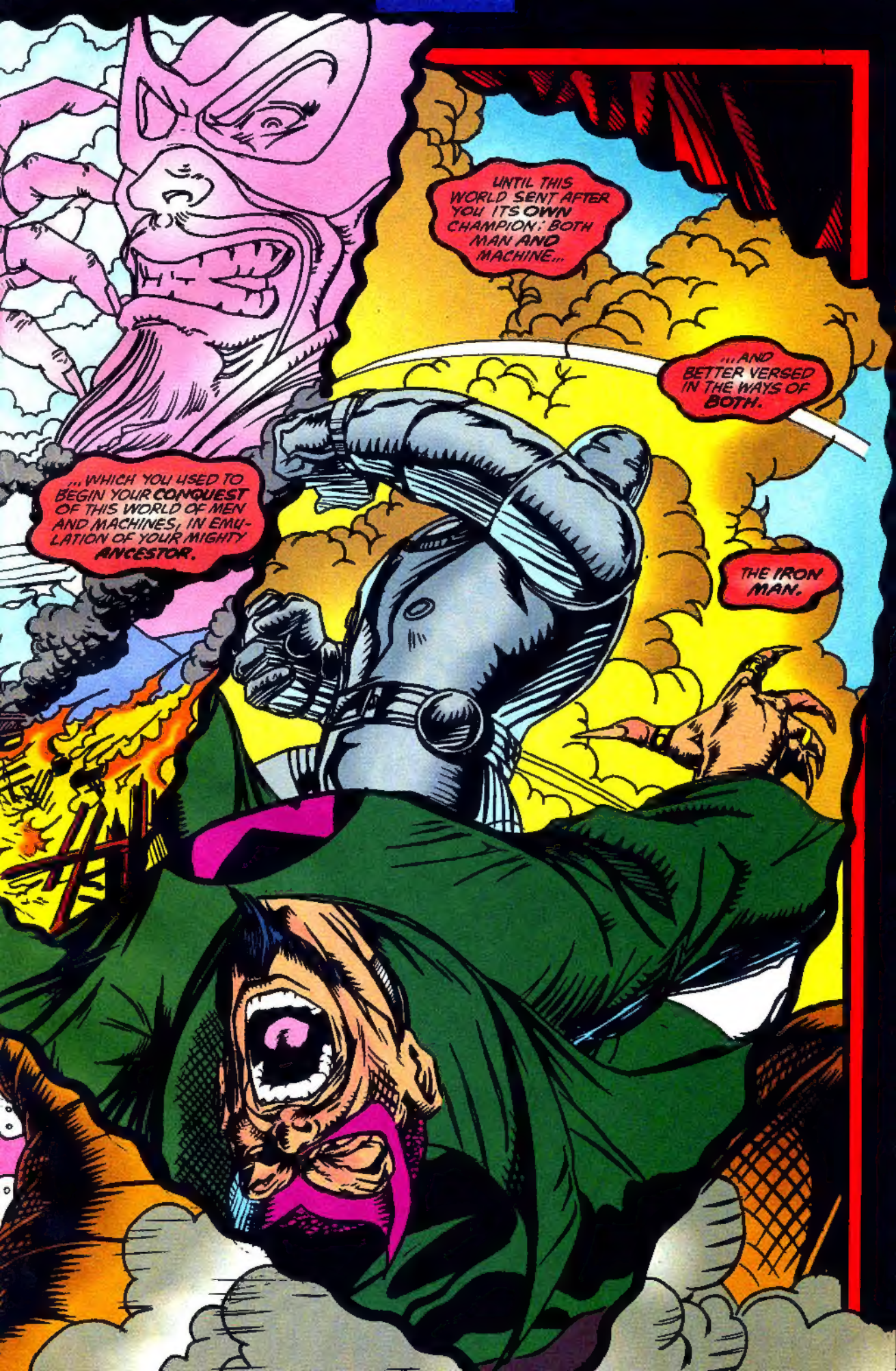
300 YEARS AGO:
A MEMBER OF THE ANCIENT CHINESE ORDER KNOWN AS THE YIN, IN A SEARCH FOR OBJECTS OF MYSTICAL POWER--
--DISCOVERS THE GLOWING ORB THAT HAS WAITED MANY TIMES LONGER THAN MANKIND HAS BEEN ALIVE.


250 YEARS AGO:
THE SORCERER OF THE YIN DIES, HIS BODY AND SPIRIT WASTED TO NOTHING--
--BY THE ARTIFACT HE CAME TO DESCRIBE AS THE HEART OF DARKNESS.

SIX HOURS AGO:
THE MANDARIN DISCOVERS THE RUINS OF THE YIN SORCERER'S CASTLE--
--BECOMING THE FIRST HUMAN BEING IN ALMOST THREE CENTURIES TO TOUCH THE HEART OF DARKNESS--
--AND TO EXPERIENCE VISIONS OF UNIMAGINABLE ALIEN POWER.
ALL OF WHICH SERVES MERELY TO ILLUSTRATE THAT...
THE PAST IS PROLOGUE
THE EVENTS OF THIS STORY TAKE PLACE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THOSE SEEN IN IRON MAN #307.--Richard

YES! NOW I UNDERSTAND...
THE VOICES THAT CALLED ME BACK FROM MY LIGHT-LESS DELIRIUM...
...LYING FALLOW IN A PEASANT'S HOME LIKE SOME COMMON INVALID...
...WERE CALLING ME HERE.
YES, YOUR DESTINY AWAITS YOU.
EH? WHO SPEAKS?
WHAT PLACE IS THIS?
IT IS THE PROVING GROUND OF YOUR SOUL, MANDARIN.
THE BATTLEFIELD ON WHICH YOUR TRUE FATE SHALL BE WON...
...OR IRRETRIEVABLY LOST.
YOU HAVE SQUANDERED YOUR LIFE IN PURSUIT OF CONQUEST OVER WHAT YOUR KIND CALLS THE MODERN WORLD.
THE BAUBLES OF THAT WORLD--TECHNOLOGY, SCIENCE, THE THINGS OF THE TANGIBLE--ARE SHADOWS.
DO I HEAR... THE VOICES OF THE GODS?
YES, IT MUST BE SO!
HERE, ALL THAT ONE BELIEVES IS SO.

BEHOLD YOUR BIRTH TO A FAMILY OF WORLDLY INFLUENCE, DESCENDED OF THE GREAT KHAN HIMSELF.
YOUR EARLY CAREER AS A YOUNG BUREAUCRAT RENOWNED FOR YOUR SKILL IN THE INTRICACIES OF POLITICAL MANEUVERING.
YOUR JOURNEY TO THE VALLEY OF SPIRITS...
... AND YOUR DISCOVERY OF THE GREAT RINGS OF POWER...*
*TALES OF SUSPENSE #62. --Richard

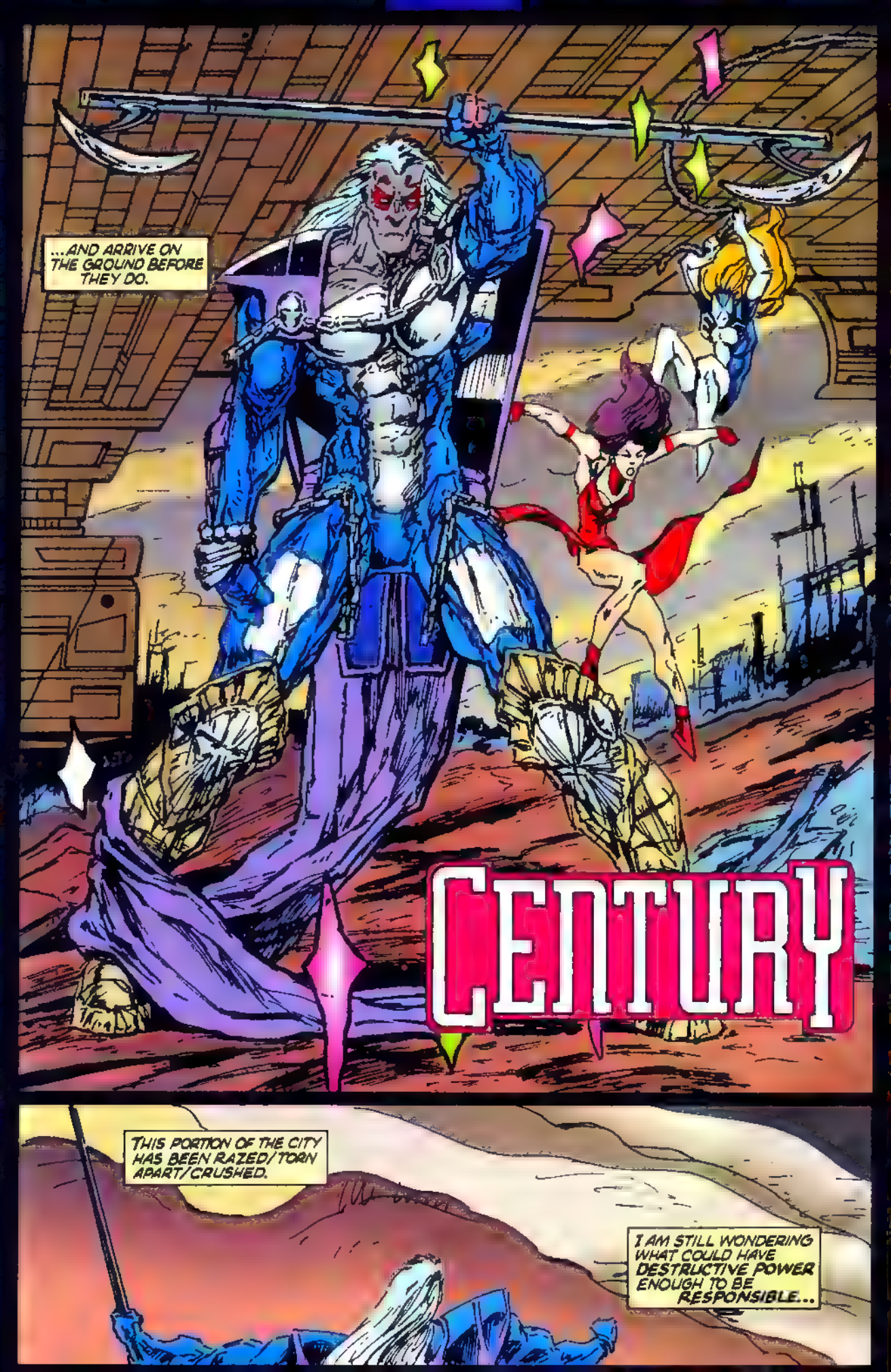

UNTIL THIS WORLD SENT AFTER YOU ITS OWN CHAMPION: BOTH MAN AND MACHINE...
...AND BETTER VERSED IN THE WAYS OF BOTH.
...WHICH YOU USED TO BEGIN YOUR CONQUEST OF THIS WORLD OF MEN AND MACHINES, IN EMULATION OF YOUR MIGHTY ANCESTOR.
THE IRON MAN.

WHY DO YOU SHOW ME THIS?
WHY DO YOU TORMENT ME WITH MY FAILURES?
SO THAT YOU MIGHT LEARN FROM THEM.
A SINGLE THREAD ENTWINES THEM ALL.
YOUR DEFEAT BY THE PRETENDER KNOWN AS THE YELLOW CLAW..*
...WHO KNEW BETTER THE TOOLS OF THIS STERILE WORLD.
*IRON MAN #70.--Richard
AND ALWAYS THERE WAS THE IRON MAN THWARTING YOU AT EVERY TURN...
...USING THE PLAYTHINGS OF SCIENCE WITH GREATER SKILL...

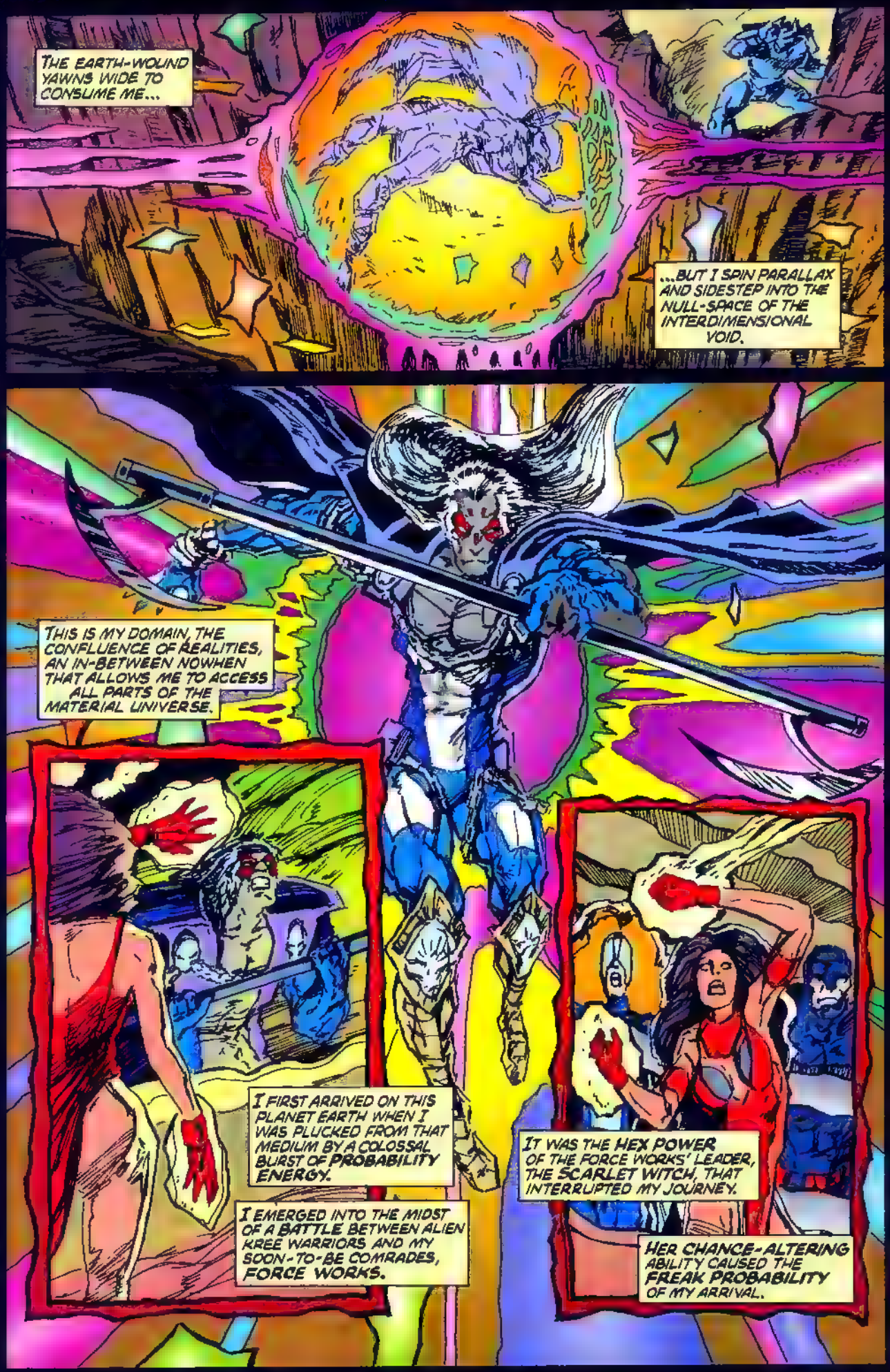
...LAYING WASTE TO YOUR DREAMS OF CONQUEST...
...AND AT LAST TURNING YOUR OWN POWER AGAINST YOU!
A CATACLYSM THAT NEARLY ENDED YOUR TIME FOREVER.*
YOU CANNOT DEFEAT YOUR GREATEST ENEMY WITH HIS OWN TRICKS.
YOU MUST DISCOVER THE GREATER POWER THAT LIES IN YOUR SPIRIT.
*IRON MAN #275.--Richard

HOW? TELL ME HOW. PLEASE--
-- HOW MAY I ATONE FOR THE MISTAKES OF MY PAST?
IT IS NOT A QUESTION OF ATONEMENT.
IT IS A QUESTION OF VICTORY.
BEHOLD YOURSELVES, MANDARIN. ALL THAT IS WRONG AND WEAK IN YOUR SOUL!
YOU MUST ENGAGE THEM... AND EMERGE VICTORIOUS...
...OR DIE!
NEXT: INNER DEMONS

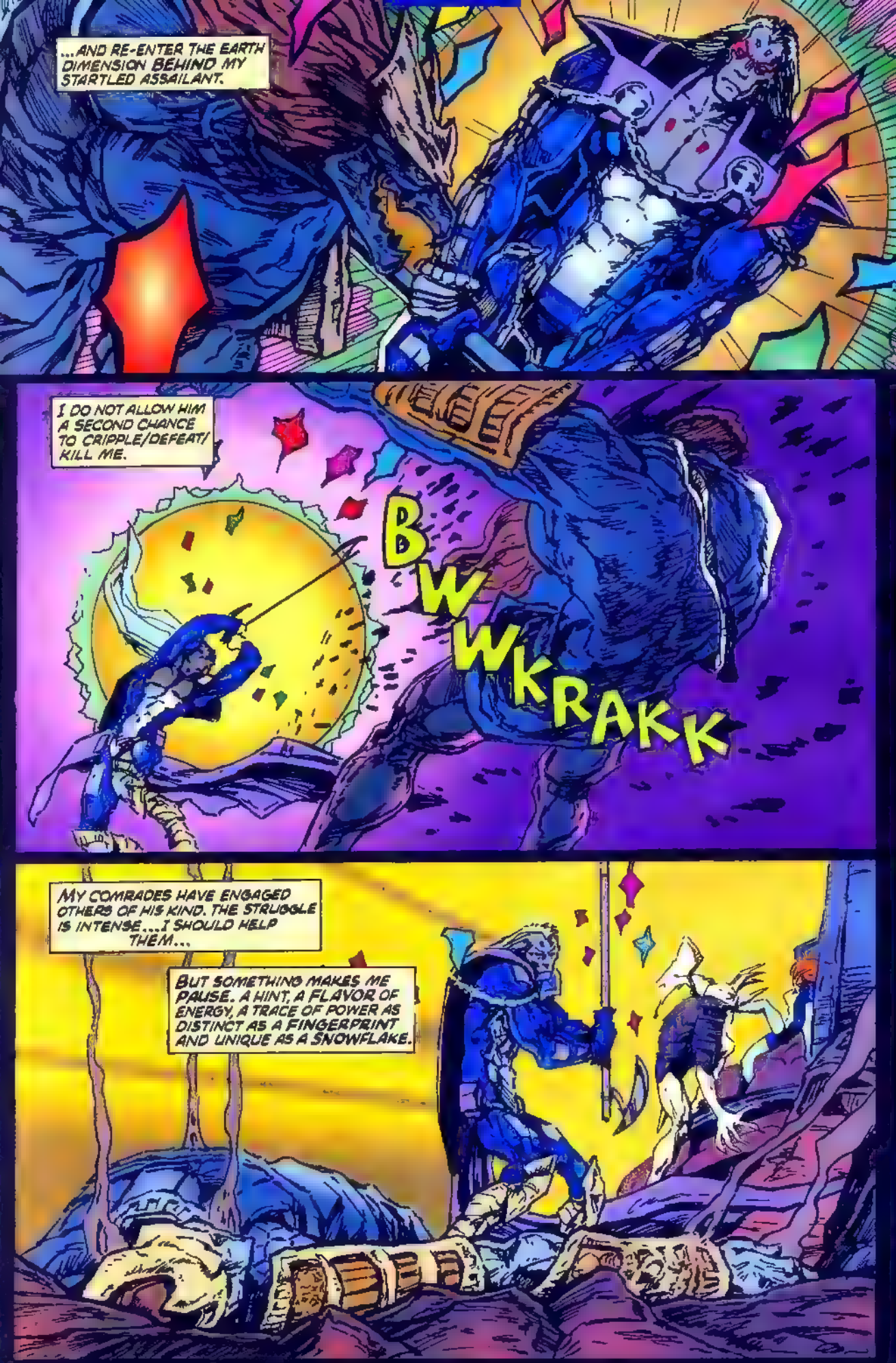
THE HEX SHIP SLOWS TO DEAD STOP..
...AND WE LOOK DOWN ON A CITY RUINED.
I WOULD LIKE TO SAY IT REMINDS ME OF SOMETHING, BUT IT DOES NOT. IT IS JUST BURNING STONE AND DISPERSING SMOKE.
WE HAVE COME HERE, TO THIS PLACE HONG KONG, IN ANSWER TO ITS SCREAM FOR HELP. I AM NOT SURE WHAT HELP WE CAN OFFER.
OKAY, FORCE WORKS! TACTICAL HOLOGRAM SHOWS SEVERAL APPARENTLY SUPER-POWERED INDIVIDUALS ON THE RAMPAGE BELOW US!
I'M POPPING THE OUTER HATCH! LET'S GET READY TO MOVE!
MY COMRADES EXIT THE SHIP VIA THE HATCH.
I RAISE PARALLAX, SLICE OPEN THE CO-ORDINATES OF TIME-SPACE...

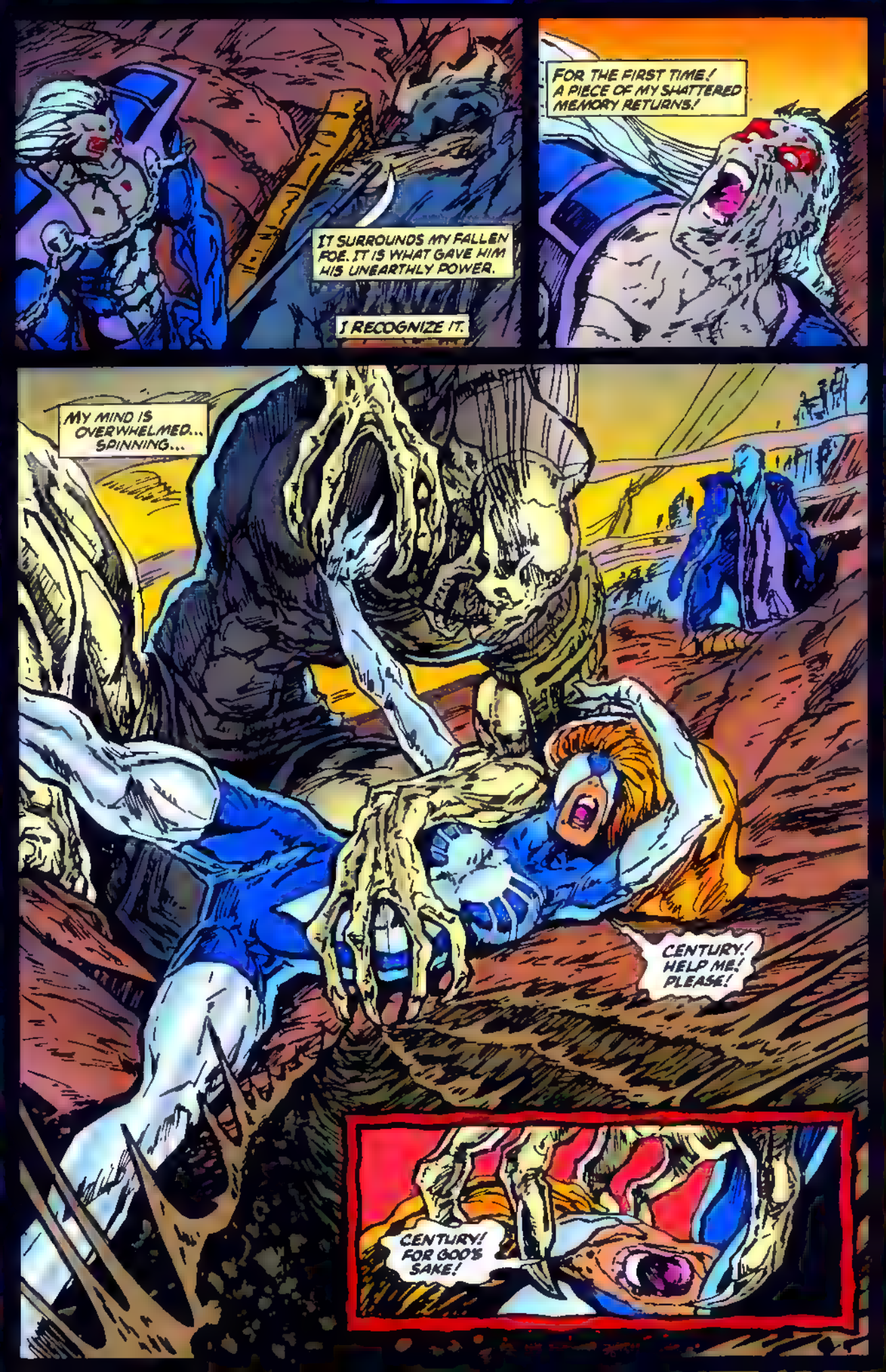

...AND ARRIVE ON THE GROUND BEFORE THEY DO.
CENTURY
THIS PORTION OF THE CITY HAS BEEN RAZED/TORN APART/CRUSHED.
I AM STILL WONDERING WHAT COULD HAVE DESTRUCTIVE POWER ENOUGH TO BE RESPONSIBLE...

...WHEN THE QUESTION BECOMES ACADEMIC.
MY ASSAILANT IS HUGE, AND CHALLENGES ME IN A HUMAN DIALECT I HAVE NOT YET MASTERED.
HIS ACTIONS MAKE HIS INTENT CLEAR.
THE GROUND CONVULSES UNDER HIS FISTS, AND THE AIRSHOCK OF THE IMPACT NEARLY BLASTS ME OFF MY FEET.
SHHRRAKKOOMM
BUT THERE IS MORE TO HIS BLOW THAN SIMPLE KINETIC FORCE.
HE UNLEASHES SOME PARANORMAL CONTROL OF SEISMIC EFFECT AND SPLITS THE PLANETARY CRUST TO A DEPTH OF SEVENTY METERS.


THE EARTH-WOUND YAWNS WIDE TO CONSUME ME...
...BUT I SPIN PARALLAX AND SIDESTEP INTO THE NULL-SPACE OF THE INTERDIMENSIONAL VOID.
THIS IS MY DOMAIN, THE CONFLUENCE OF REALITIES, AN IN-BETWEEN NOWHEN THAT ALLOWS ME TO ACCESS ALL PARTS OF THE MATERIAL UNIVERSE.
I FIRST ARRIVED ON THIS PLANET EARTH WHEN I WAS PLUCKED FROM THAT MEDIUM BY A COLOSSAL BURST OF PROBABILITY ENERGY.
I EMERGED INTO THE MIDST OF A BATTLE BETWEEN ALIEN KREE WARRIORS AND MY SOON-TO-BE COMRADES, FORCE WORKS.
IT WAS THE HEX POWER OF THE FORCE WORKS' LEADER, THE SCARLET WITCH, THAT INTERRUPTED MY JOURNEY.
HER CHANCE-ALTERING ABILITY CAUSED THE FREAK PROBABILITY OF MY ARRIVAL.

BEFORE ANY EXPLANATIONS COULD BE RENDERED, I HAD JOINED THEM TO COMBAT THE MENACE OF THE ALIEN SCAVENGERS KNOWN AS THE SCATTER.
IT WAS A BITTER STRUGGLE MADE WORSE BY THE FACT THAT SOMEHOW, I HAD LED THE SCATTER TO EARTH.
BUT HOW, I COULD NOT SAY. MY ODYSSEY THROUGH NULL-SPACE HAD ERODED MY MEMORY, LEAVING ME WITH NO KNOWLEDGE OF WHO OR WHAT I AM.
FORCE WORKS OFFERED ME HOSPITALITY, COMRADESHIP, AND A CHANCE TO RECUPERATE...
...BUT DESPITE LONG HOURS OF MEDITATION, I HAVE NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO RECOVER MY LOST IDENTITY.
NULL-SPACE SLIDES PAST. I SELECT CO-ORDINATES FOR RELOCATION...


...AND RE-ENTER THE EARTH DIMENSION BEHIND MY STARTLED ASSAILANT.
I DO NOT ALLOW HIM A SECOND CHANCE TO CRIPPLE/DEFEAT/ KILL ME.
BWWKRAKK
MY COMRADES HAVE ENGAGED OTHERS OF HIS KIND. THE STRUGGLE IS INTENSE...I SHOULD HELP THEM...
BUT SOMETHING MAKES ME PAUSE. A HINT, A FLAVOR OF ENERGY, A TRACE OF POWER AS DISTINCT AS A FINGERPRINT AND UNIQUE AS A SNOWFLAKE.


IT SURROUNDS MY FALLEN FOE. IT IS WHAT GAVE HIM HIS UNEARTHLY POWER.
I RECOGNIZE IT.
FOR THE FIRST TIME! A PIECE OF MY SHATTERED MEMORY RETURNS!
MY MIND IS OVERWHELMED... SPINNING...
CENTURY! HELP ME! PLEASE!
CENTURY! FOR GOD'S SAKE!

SHHRRKKK!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT! HE'S TELEPORTING AWAY!
NOOOO!
I AM LOATHE TO LEAVE MY TEAMMATES IN SUCH DIRE CIRCUMSTANCES, BUT I MUST.
EVEN IF IT RESULTS IN THEIR DEATHS.
I MUST FOLLOW THE ENERGY SIGNATURE TO ITS SOURCE. IT MAY PROVE TO BE THE KEY TO MY LOST PAST...
...AND MORE BESIDES.
IF WHAT I REMEMBER IS CORRECT, IT IS TOO DANGEROUS TO IGNORE.
TOO DANGEROUS FOR ME. FOR FORCE WORKS.
FOR THE PLANET ITSELF.
THE END

FORCE WORKS AND "THE HANDS OF THE MANDARIN" CONTINUES...

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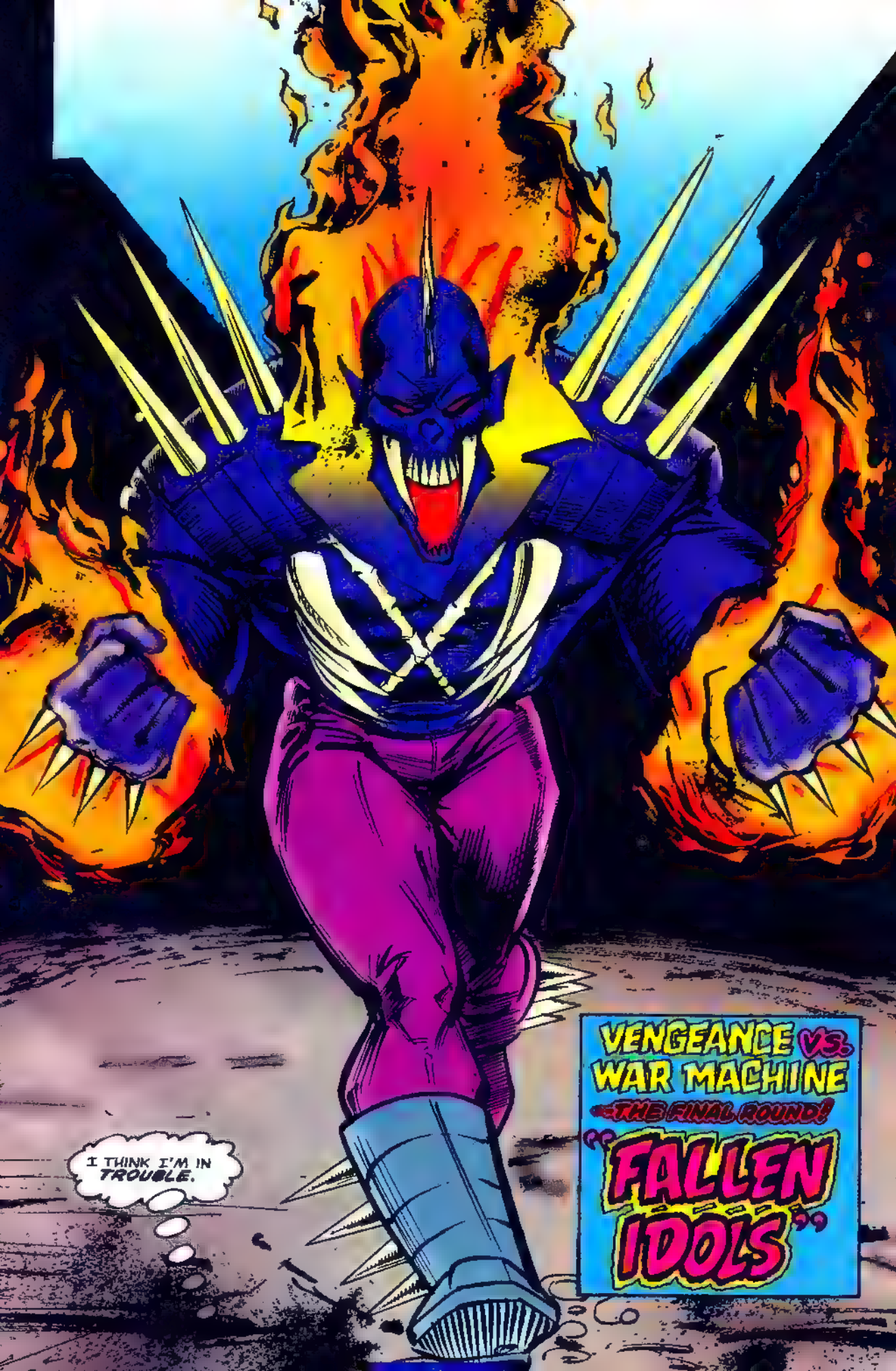

I THINK I'M IN TROUBLE.
VENGEANCE VS. WAR MACHINE
THE FINAL ROUND!
"FALLEN IDOLS"

ONE CHANCE-- MY REPULSOR RAYS MAY HAVE A LIMITED EFFECT ON VENGEANCE HIMSELF...

...BUT WHAT ABOUT THE GROUND BENEATH HIS FEET?!

EH?

BOY, THE LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF ROADWAY MAINTENANCE IS GONNA HATE ME AFTER THIS.

ZRAAKOOM

NOW THE ONLY WAY YOU'RE GETTING OUT OF THIS...IS IN A BODY BAG.

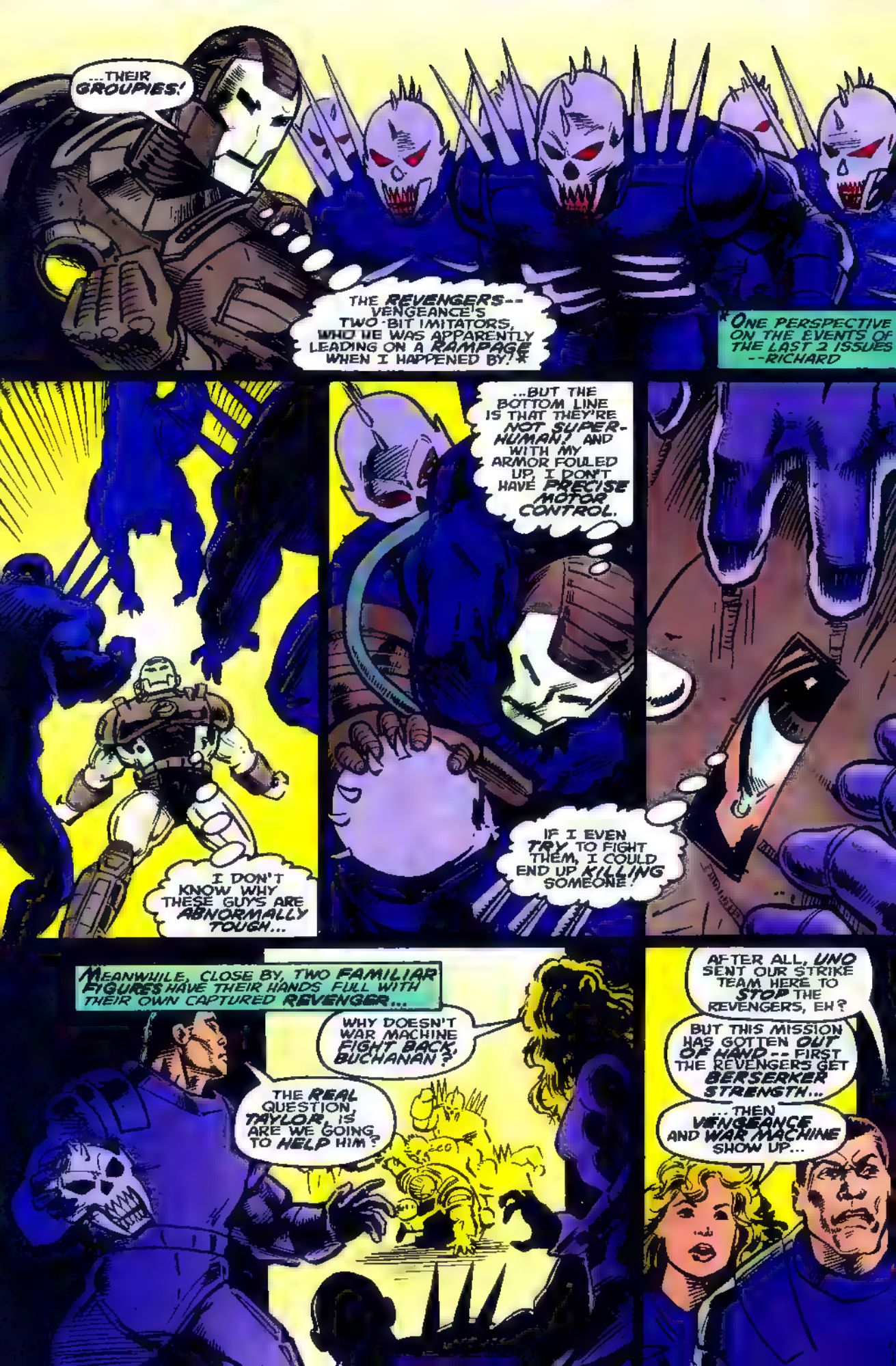
YOU SHOULD HAVE STAYED OUT OF THIS... LET ME HANDLE THE SITUATION

THAT WON'T SAVE YOU, WAR MACHINE!

NO--HE'S USING A SECOND BLAST TO COLLAPSE THE CRATER...

...AND BURY ME!

THERE'S ONLY ONE THING I CAN'T STAND MORE THAN LOUDMOUTH NEW YORKERS...

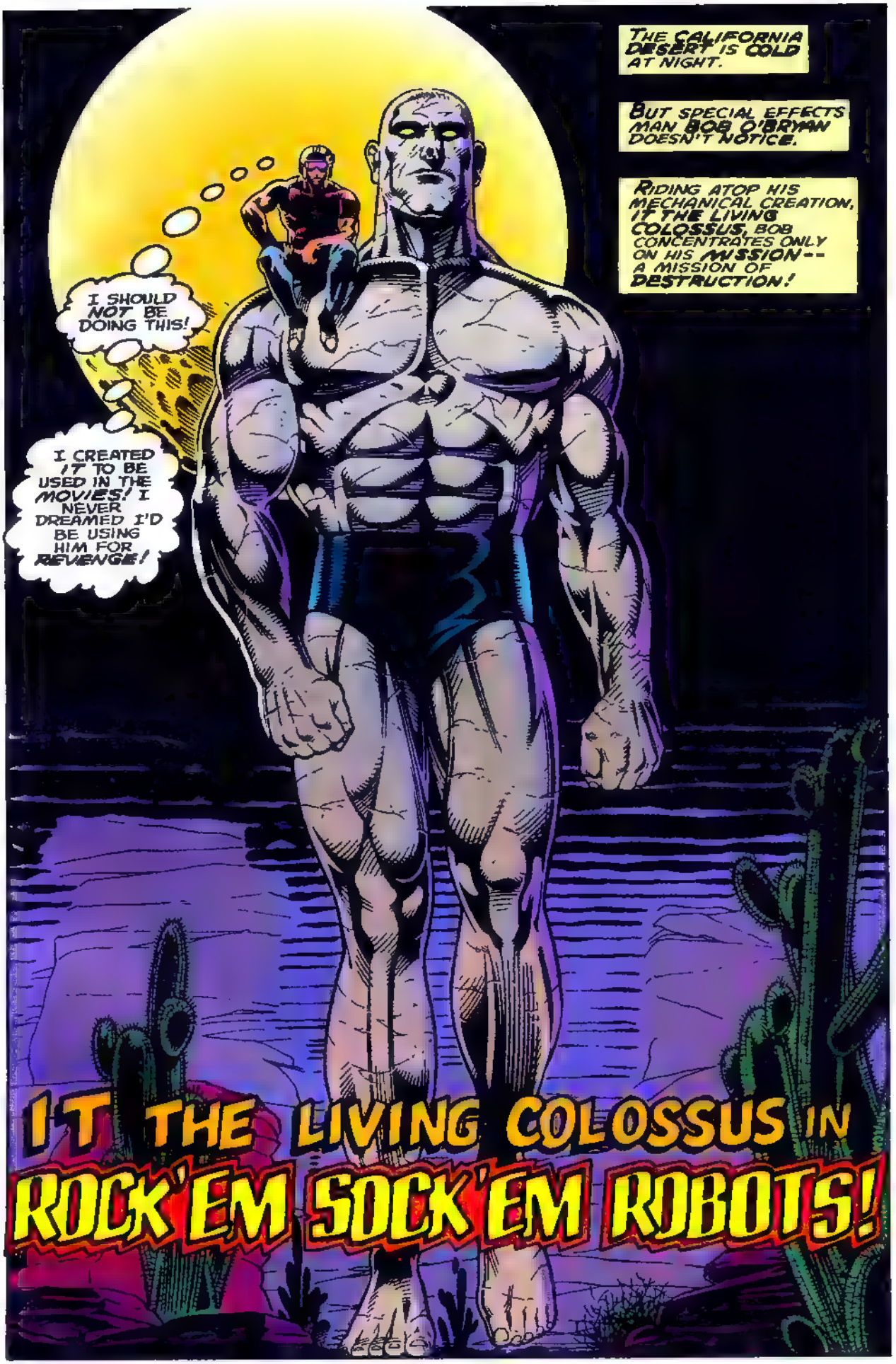

...THEIR GROUPIES!
THE REVENGERS--VENGEANCE'S TWO-BIT IMITATORS, WHO HE WAS APPARENTLY LEADING ON A RAMPAGE WHEN I HAPPENED BY!*
*ONE PERSPECTIVE ON THE EVENTS OF THE LAST 2 ISSUES --RICHARD
I DON'T KNOW WHY THESE GUYS ARE ABNORMALLY TOUGH...
...BUT THE BOTTOM LINE IS THAT THEY'RE NOT SUPER-HUMAN! AND WITH MY ARMOR FOULED UP, I DON'T HAVE PRECISE MOTOR CONTROL.
IF I EVEN TRY TO FIGHT THEM, I COULD END UP KILLING SOMEONE!
MEANWHILE, CLOSE BY, TWO FAMILIAR FIGURES HAVE THEIR HANDS FULL WITH THEIR OWN CAPTURED REVENGER...
WHY DOESN'T WAR MACHINE FIGHT BACK, BUCHANAN?
THE REAL QUESTION, TAYLOR, IS ARE WE GOING TO HELP HIM?
AFTER ALL, UNO SENT OUR STRIKE TEAM HERE TO STOP THE REVENGERS, EH?
BUT THIS MISSION HAS GOTTEN OUT OF HAND -- FIRST THE REVENGERS GET BERSERKER STRENGTH...
...THEN VENGEANCE AND WAR MACHINE SHOW UP...

... AND ON TOP OF IT ALL, SOMEONE'S SPYING ON US, THEM ...THE WHOLE MESS!
--NAMELY OUR UNMASKED REVENGER FRIEND! UGLY, ISN'T HE?
HIS FACE IS A RESULT OF THE SIDE-EFFECTS OF THE STEROIDS AND ADRENALOIDS THOSE TUBES MUST PUMP INTO HIS SYSTEM...
AND NOW THAT WE KNOW THAT, I'VE GOT AN IDEA FOR AN EFFECTIVE COUNTERMEASURE...
THEN LET'S GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO LOOK AT, EH?--
DRUGS, SAM-- THAT'S HOW THE THE REVENGERS GET THEIR CRAZY TOUGHNESS!
...ONCE I CONTACT UNO, WAITING IN OUR CHOPPER..
YOU MAY NOT GET THE CHANCE, TAYLOR! THE GROUND, SHAKING...
KRAKOOOM
...VENGEANCE IS BREAKING FREE!!

WE'VE CAPTURED HIM FOR YOU, LORD!
KILL HIM!! KILL HIM!!
IF I BUST LOOSE, I'M SURE TO KILL SOME OF THE REVENGERS...
...BUT IF I DON'T DEAR LORD, THE BLOODLUST IN VENGEANCE'S EYES ... HELLFIRE BLAST IS SURE TO KILL ME!"
NO.
NO!
BLAM
YIKES! I HOPE TAYLOR KNOWS WHAT SHE'S GETTING US INTO!
NO MORE KILLING! NO MORE!!

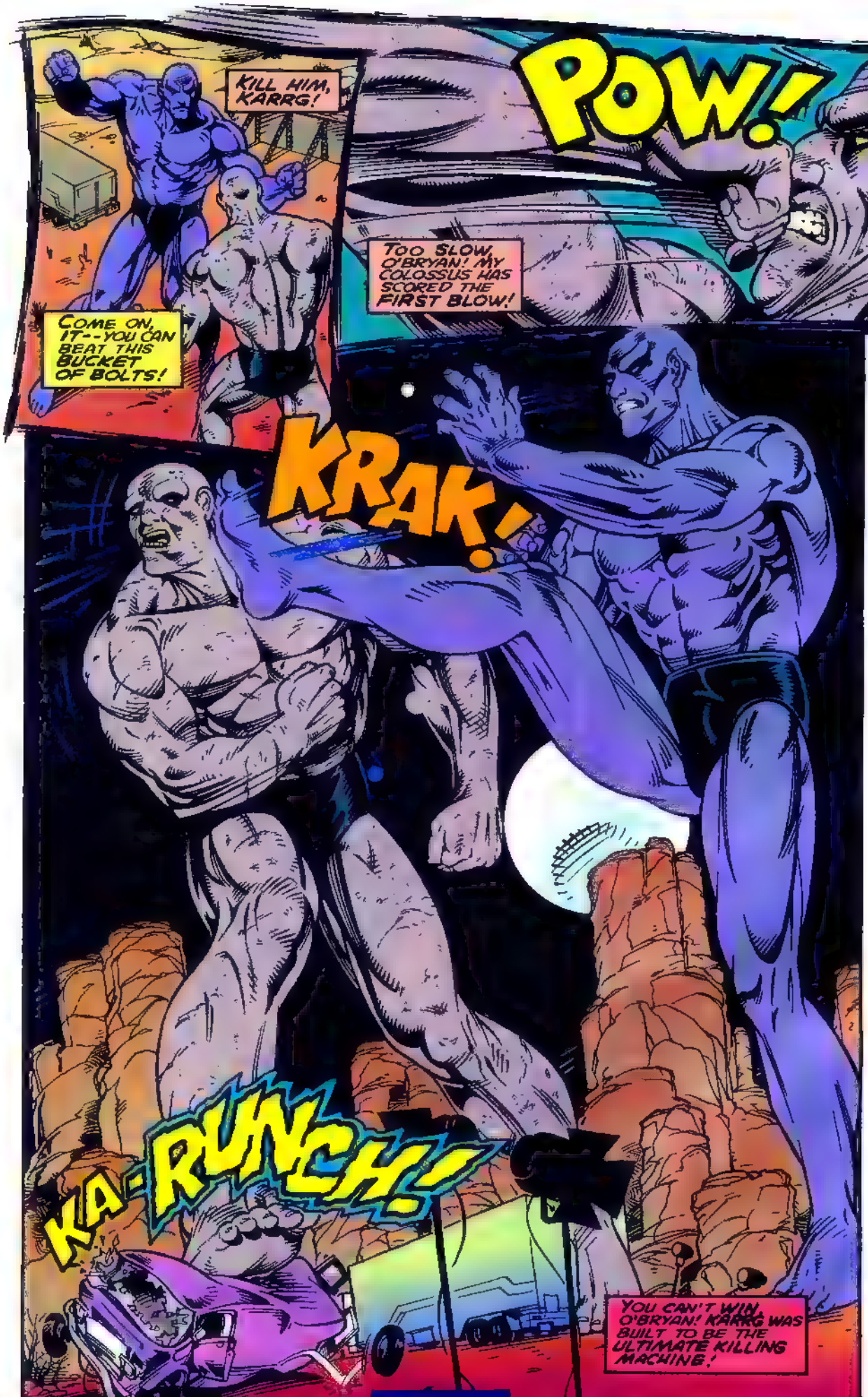
YOU REVENGERS--LISTEN TO ME! ONCE I WAS LIKE YOU...LETTING MY THIRST FOR VENGEANCE CONSUME ME...
...BUT LOOK WHAT IT DOES! IT EATS YOU UP AND LEAVES NOTHING BUT UGLINESS WHERE A HUMAN BEING USED TO BE!
LEARN FROM MY MISTAKES, BEFORE IT'S--
WHUP WHUP WHUP WHUP WHUP
--TOO LATE!
KNOCK-OUT GAS, CUED TO THE DRUG ADDICTED METABOLISM OF THE REVENGERS!
IT'S WORKING! THEY'RE GOING DOWN...
SSSSSSSSS
...AND SO ARE YOU, VENGEANCE! THAT NICE LITTLE SPEECH DOESN'T ANSWER FOR YOUR CRIMES!
NO, IT DOESN'T.
I'M RESPONSIBLE TO SOMEONE FAR MORE IMPORTANT THAN YOU FOR ALL THAT I'VE DONE... ALL THAT I WILL DO FROM NOW ON.
I'M GOING TO PUT THINGS RIGHT STARTING WITH MY OWN HEAD AND IF YOU REALLY WANT TO MAKE MY DAY, WAR MACHINE...
...YOU'LL TRY TO STOP ME.

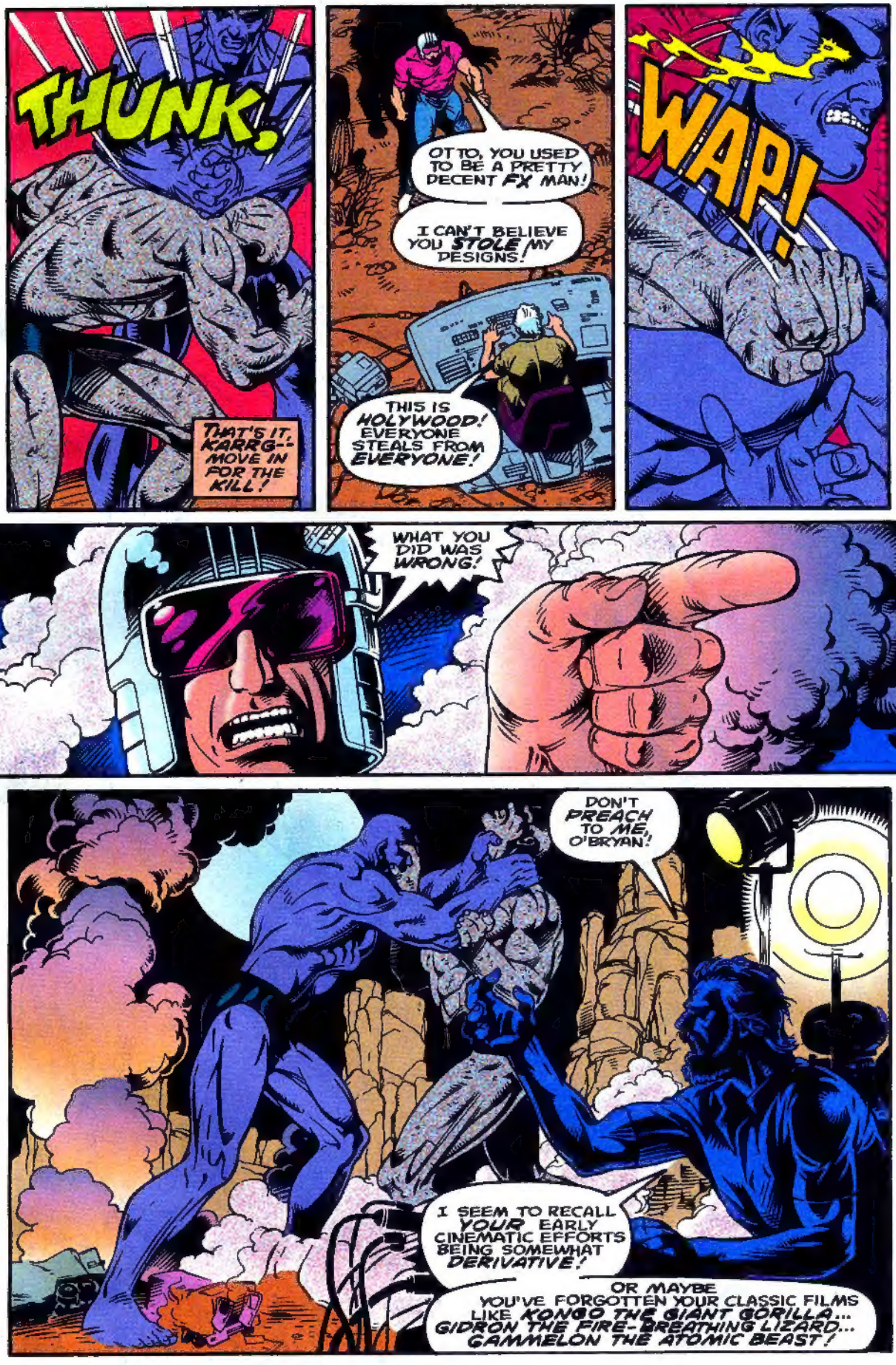
WASHINGTON, D.C...
REVEREND NABISCO NICEIZA AND HIS WIFE ARE HERE TO SEE YOU, SIR...
...AND LET ME SAY, I'M YOUR BIGGEST FAN, REV. NICE! I WATCH YOUR BROADCASTS ALL THE TIME!
WHY, SON, YOU'RE JUST THE SORT OF YOUNG MAN AMERICA NEEDS!
YOU COME ON DOWN TO THE RESURRECTION PAVILION NEXT SUNDAY, AS MY PERSONAL GUEST!
ME?!! THAT'S GREAT!! I--
THANK YOU, LIEUTENANT. THAT WILL BE ALL.
YESSIR.
AND YOU, TOO, WENDY SUE-- RUN ALONG AND LET THE MEN-FOLK TAKE CARE OF BUSINESS.
BUT 'BISCO--
IS THERE A PROBLEM HERE?
AH, WOMEN! BUT NOW, OLD FRIEND...
...THINGS HAVEN'T GONE AS THE LORD WOULD HAVE LIKED.
I KNOW, I KNOW. WE WERE MONITORING THE ENTIRE VENGEANCE-WAR MACHINE INCIDENT IN LOS ANGELES.
HOW CAN I PREACH THE LORD'S WILL--THAT MURDERIN' DEMONS WALK AMONG US- IF THE DEMON HAS GIVEN UP MURDERIN'?!
WHEN VENGEANCE WAS OUT OF CONTROL, HE WAS THE WORST P.R. SUPERHUMANS HAVE HAD SINCE MAGNETO. I'M NOT GIVING THAT UP.
DON'T WORRY IF VENGEANCE HAS STOPPED KILLING, THEN--IN THE NAME OF NATIONAL SECURITY--
--MICHAEL CLEMSON WILL JUST HAVE TO MAKE SURE HE STARTS KILLING AGAIN!
NEXT: THE BEGINNING...
MICHAEL CLEMSON

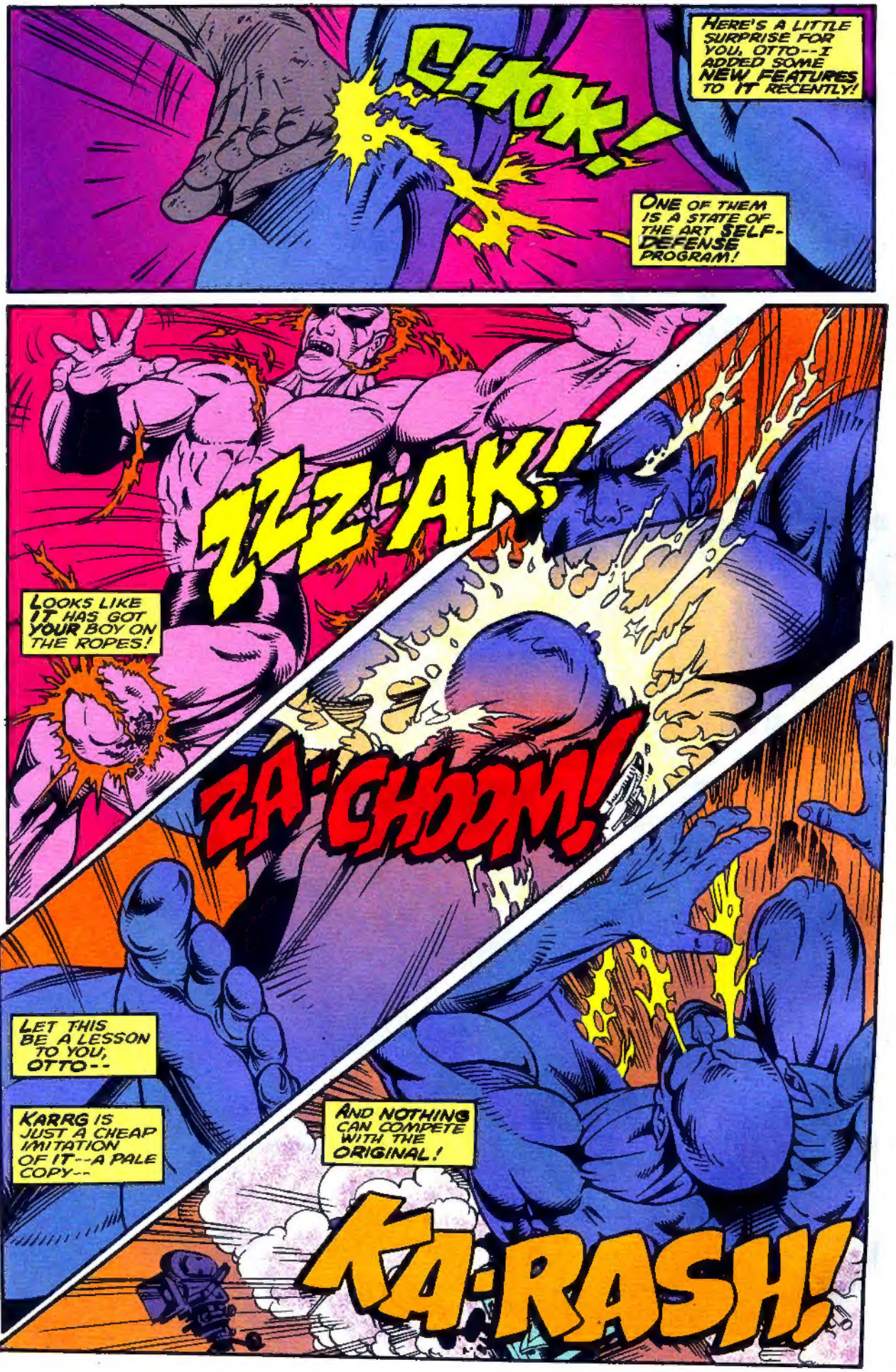

THE CALIFORNIA DESERT IS COLD AT NIGHT.
BUT SPECIAL EFFECTS MAN BOB O'BRYAN DOESN'T NOTICE.
RIDING ATOP HIS MECHANICAL CREATION, IT THE LIVING COLOSSUS, BOB CONCENTRATES ONLY ON HIS MISSION -- A MISSION OF DESTRUCTION!
I SHOULD NOT BE DOING THIS!
I CREATED IT TO BE USED IN THE MOVIES! I NEVER DREAMED I'D BE USING HIM FOR REVENGE!
IT THE LIVING COLOSSUS IN
ROCK 'EM SOCK 'EM ROBOTS!

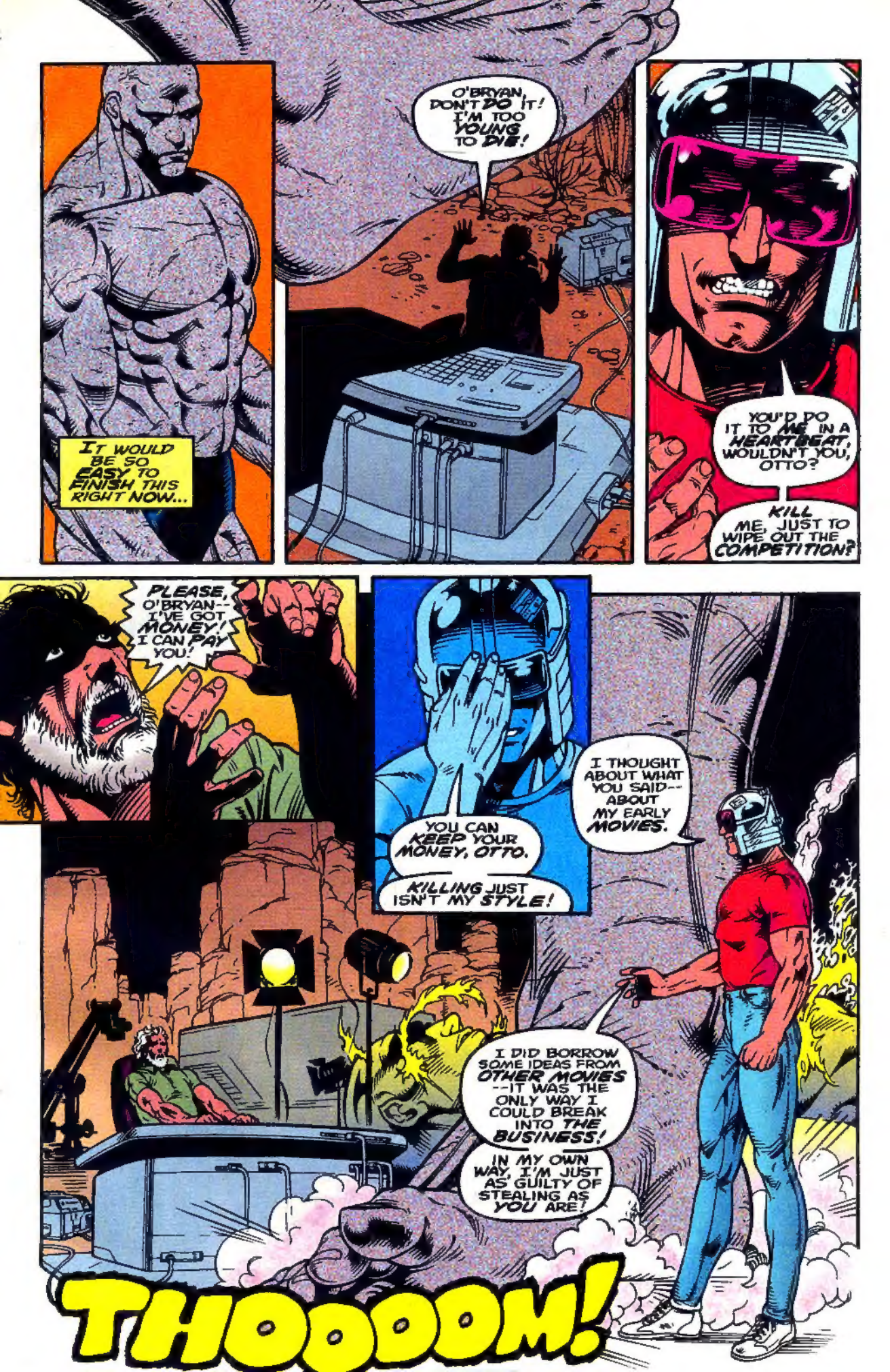
"I REMEMBER HOW EXCITED I WAS WHEN I FIRST BUILT THE ROBOT...
"...DEVELOPING A HELMET THAT GAVE ME COMPLETE CONTROL OVER IT."
"SURE, THERE WERE SOME PROBLEMS AT FIRST--LIKE--WHEN IT ATTACKED WONDER MAN...BUT I'VE GOTTEN ALL THE BUGS OUT SINCE THEN!
IN THE UNFORGETTABLE WONDER MAN ANNUAL...ER, #2. --RICHARD
"THINGS WERE GOING GREAT UNTIL I HAD THAT CONVERSATION WITH DAN, MY DIRECTOR EARLIER TONIGHT..."
I'M TELLING YOU BOB, YOUR OLD ASSISTANT, OTTO RANETTI, STOLE YOUR IDEAS!
HE'S MAKING HIS OWN GIANT ROBOT MOVIE FOR SUN STUDIOS--
--USING SPECIAL EFFECTS TECHNOLOGY STOLEN FROM YOU!
WE CAN'T GO TO THE POLICE, BECAUSE WE HAVE NO PROOF...
...BUT I'VE SEEN THEIR DESIGNS, AND I KNOW HE TOOK YOUR IDEAS!
IF I WERE YOU, I'D TAKE YOUR ROBOT AND GO OUT THERE AND SMASH HIS!
IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, IT'S THE ONLY SENSIBLE THING TO DO!
DAN GOT ME SO WORKED UP... BEFORE I KNOW IT, HERE I AM!
MAYBE I WON'T HAVE TO SMASH ANYTHING! MAYBE I CAN JUST TALK TO OTTO! I USED TO WORK WITH HIM, AFTER ALL...

HERE'S THE MOVIE LOCATION... AND THERE'S THAT BOGUS IT!
LOOKS LIKE EVERYBODY HAS GONE FOR THE NIGHT. GOOD! MAYBE WE'LL BE ABLE TO TALK THIS OUT.
OTTO, I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT YOU! WE USED TO WORK TOGETHER, FOR GOSH SAKES...
BUT I NEED TO KNOW THE TRUTH!
WELL, WELL-- IF IT ISN'T BOB O'BRYAN, SUPERSTAR FX MAN AND HIS FIFTY-FOOT PAPERWEIGHT!
I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET MY CREATION--KARRG, THE MIGHTIEST ROBOT OF ALL!
IF YOU'RE ACCUSING ME OF STEALING, YOU'D BETTER BE PREPARED TO BACK IT UP!
DID YOU STEAL MY DESIGNS?
MAYBE I DID! SO WHAT? AFTER TONIGHT IS THROUGH, THERE'S ONLY GONNA BE ONE GIANT ROBOT LEFT...
...AND IT'S GONNA BE MINE!!


KILL HIM, KARRG!
COME ON, IT--YOU CAN BEAT THIS BUCKET OF BOLTS!
POW!
TOO SLOW, O'BRYAN! MY COLOSSUS HAS SCORED THE FIRST BLOW!
KRAK!
KA-RUNCH!
YOU CAN'T WIN, O'BRYAN! KARRG WAS BUILT TO BE THE ULTIMATE KILLING MACHINE!


THUNK!
THAT'S IT, KARRG-- MOVE IN FOR THE KILL!
OTTO, YOU USED TO BE A PRETTY DECENT FX MAN!
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU STOLE MY DESIGNS!
THIS IS HOLYWOOD! EVERYONE STEALS FROM EVERYONE!
WAP!
WHAT YOU DID WAS WRONG!
DON'T PREACH TO ME, O'BRYAN!
I SEEM TO RECALL YOUR EARLY CINEMATIC EFFORTS BEING SOMEWHAT DERIVATIVE!
OR MAYBE YOU'VE FORGOTTEN YOUR CLASSIC FILMS LIKE KONGO THE GIANT GORILLA... GIDRON THE FIRE-BREATHING LIZARD... GAMMELON THE ATOMIC BEAST!


CHOK!
HERE'S A LITTLE SURPRISE FOR YOU, OTTO--I ADDED SOME NEW FEATURES TO IT RECENTLY!
ONE OF THEM IS A STATE OF THE ART SELF-DEFENSE PROGRAM!
ZZ-AK!
LOOKS LIKE IT HAS GOT YOUR BOY ON THE ROPES!
ZA-CHOOM!
LET THIS BE A LESSON TO YOU, OTTO--
KARRG IS JUST A CHEAP IMITATION OF IT--A PALE COPY--
AND NOTHING CAN COMPETE WITH THE ORIGINAL!
KA-RASH!


IT WOULD BE SO EASY TO FINISH THIS RIGHT NOW...
O'BRYAN, DON'T DO IT! I'M TOO YOUNG TO DIE!
YOU'D DO IT TO ME IN A HEARTBEAT, WOULDN'T YOU, OTTO?
KILL ME, JUST TO WIPE OUT THE COMPETITION?
PLEASE, O'BRYAN-- I'VE GOT MONEY! I CAN PAY YOU!
YOU CAN KEEP YOUR MONEY, OTTO.
KILLING JUST ISN'T MY STYLE!
I THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT YOU SAID-- ABOUT MY EARLY MOVIES.
I DID BORROW SOME IDEAS FROM OTHER MOVIES --IT WAS THE ONLY WAY I COULD BREAK INTO THE BUSINESS!
IN MY OWN WAY, I'M JUST AS GUILTY OF STEALING AS YOU ARE!
THOOOOM!

KARRG ISN'T DAMAGED THAT BADLY. YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO REPAIR HIM IN A FEW DAYS.
YOU CAN SEND ME THE BILL FOR THE DAMAGES!
COME ON, IT-- WE'RE GOING HOME.
OH, AND OTTO-- ONE MORE THING -- GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR MOVIE.
THANKS, O'BRYAN. YOU TOO.
OH, MAN--LOOK AT THIS MESS! WHAT AM I GONNA TELL THE PRODUCERS?!!
LATER, AT THE HOME OF BOB AND HIS WIFE, ACTRESS DIANE CUMMINGS...
SO YOU SEE, DIANE EVERYONE IN HOLLYWOOD STEALS FROM EVERYONE. THAT'S THE WAY THE MOVIE BUSINESS WORKS!
IT'S ALL A BIG RACE TO BEAT THE OTHER GUY INTO THE THEATRES, AND MAY THE BEST MOVIE WIN!
I'M PROUD OF YOU, BOB. YOU DID THE RIGHT THING.
YOU KNOW, WHEN I HEARD THEY HAD STOLEN MY DESIGNS, I JUST WANTED TO CRUSH THAT OTHER ROBOT!
BUT I DECIDED TO FIGHT KARRG IN THE ONE ARENA THAT REALLY MATTERS IN THIS TOWN...
AT THE BOX OFFICE!
THE END...
...FOR NOW!